

In the Claims:

Amend claims 1 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A catalytic converter system located downstream of an engine, the catalytic converter system being suitable for catalyzing the conversion of hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides and other pollutants contained in [a flowing] an exhaust gas stream, the converter system comprising:

a low temperature conversion catalyst [material] comprising a platinum group metal component dispersed on a [refractory] support material, said low temperature conversion catalyst [material] having a light-off temperature T_L of less than about 200°C, and being located relative to the [flowing] exhaust gas stream such that said low temperature conversion catalyst [material] is never exposed to a temperature in excess of about 550°C;

B1
a hydrocarbon adsorbent material [deposited on a refractory carrier, said hydrocarbon adsorbent material being capable of adsorbing hydrocarbons present in said flowing exhaust gas stream and of desorbing the adsorbed hydrocarbons when the temperature] located at a position selected from the group consisting of upstream of said low temperature conversion catalyst [material] relative to the direction of flow of said exhaust gas stream and at said low temperature conversion catalyst relative to the direction of flow of said exhaust gas stream, and being capable of adsorbing hydrocarbons present in said exhaust gas stream and of desorbing the adsorbed hydrocarbons when the temperature of said low temperature conversion catalyst has exceeded said light-off temperature thereof; and

optionally, an upstream conversion catalyst [material], said upstream conversion catalyst [material], when present, being located upstream of said low temperature conversion catalyst [material] relative to the direction of flow of said [flowing] exhaust gas stream to be exposed to temperatures in excess of 650°C.

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3. (Twice Amended) The converter system of Claim 1, wherein said low temperature conversion catalyst is disposed at a [muffler] position

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[under] where the temperature of the engine exhaust gas [steam] stream is less than 550°C.

B2 Sub C¹ 4. (Twice Amended) The converter system of Claim 3, [wherein there is] further in combination with a muffler at the muffler position and a tailpipe downstream of the muffler in a tailpipe position, said low temperature conversion catalyst is disposed at the tailpipe position downstream of the muffler position.

B3 8. (Twice Amended) The converter system of Claim [3]4, wherein said low temperature conversion catalyst and said adsorbent material are disposed in separate layers on muffler plates located in the path of the exhaust gas stream; and wherein said low temperature conversion catalyst is never exposed to a temperature in excess of about 500°C.

B4 12. (Twice Amended) The converter system of Claim [3]2, wherein said refractory carrier is in the form of a honeycomb configuration having cell comprising cell walls, and wherein said low temperature conversion catalyst and said adsorbent material are present in separate layers deposited on the cell walls of said honeycomb configuration.

Cancel claims 16 and 21 without prejudice to filing a divisional application.

REMARKS

The above referenced application has been amended to be placed in better condition for appeal. Only the formal objection to the specification and the rejections under 35 USC 112 are addressed below.

Objection to the Specification

The specification has been amended at pages 15 and 16 to delete reference to "Docket No. 3754" and insert Serial No. "08/987,232".